

Teacher Refresher Course

It is a 2 week course, with a very practical approach. A solid grounding is provided in teaching skills and techniques. Emphasis is placed on developing awareness and sensitivity to student needs and also **on your general language awareness.**

We are aware that teachers come to Italy to keep in touch with the language in a general way in addition to working in the classroom, so that **in the first week** you can attend a language course (from the perspective of a foreign learner) according to your level of Italian and / or work in peer with a teacher + tuition on Methodology (mostly one-to-one tuition)

In the second week you will observe the classes of well experienced teachers. These teaching practice sessions provide the opportunity to get to know techniques and to experiment different approaches to the use of materials in different classes and levels. A post-teaching feedback with a trainer is foreseen twice a week in the second week.

The course includes (minimum 60 hours/ 2 weeks) :

- General Italian Course or work in peer with a teacher trainer = **20 lessons**
- (One-to-one) Tuition on Methodology, and any other topics the candidate may wish to cover for teaching purposes = 2 lessons each afternoon (14:00-16:00) = **10 lessons**
- Teaching practice sessions through class observation = **20 lessons**

This is a key part of the course. Trainees observe a minimum of 20 hours of lessons taught by experienced teachers / teacher trainers. This is an opportunity to observe a range of teaching styles and techniques as well as a range of teaching contexts.

Trainees receive guidance from the tutors in planning their lessons, and after the lessons there is a feedback session, with oral feedback from the tutor . These may be guided video observation = **2 lessons** (in the afternoon)

- Further Activities : Afternoon lectures, excursions, guided visits to choose from on 2-3 days per week = **10/12 hours**

Course content

The focus of the course is General Italian to Adults. The course is therefore for teachers working with students who are learning the target language as a second / third...or foreign language.

Course objectives

The course is designed to develop teachers' practical teaching ability and also theoretical knowledge of teaching to make them more reflective and informed practitioners.

The main focus of the course is the planning and execution of lessons.

By the end of the course, the teacher will have received input and feedback in several teaching areas. This will have been an invaluable opportunity to get additional teaching ideas, see what teaching different levels and courses involves and will have had focused guidance to maximize this learning opportunity.

Is the course open to anyone?

We can offer courses for every stage of a teacher's career, from an initial pre-service qualification to highly qualified teacher level. It offers the high level of methodological input which many teachers seek for reasons of personal self-development.

Is this course for you?

You need not have a teaching qualification or experience, but we expect you :

- have a good level of awareness and proficiency in the Italian language
- are willing and able to cope with the intensity of the course.

The course is intended for a range of candidates, including:
candidates who are entirely new to teaching;
teachers who have taught languages but with little or no previous training;
teachers who have taught other subjects and wish to take up language teaching;
teachers who have received previous training in language teaching but feel the need for a refresher course or for a more practical training

Breakdown of course content

Input sessions (learner-centered and skill centered methodology) will support the teaching practice in the class room. This includes, for example:

- Lesson planning : Goal setting and needs analysis.
- Student Needs, Interests, Backgrounds and Motivation.
- The Interaction in the Classroom. Communicative practice and communicative teacher's acting.
- Language and Culture in Society.
- The Grammar of Spoken Italian. Techniques and resources in teaching grammar.
- Strategic Interaction. Learning through Scenarios.
- Language analysis from the perspective of a foreign learner.
- Choosing Appropriate Materials
- Developing Communicative Strategies
- Dealing with Difficult Learners
- Strategies for Increasing Comprehension in Listening
- Strategies for Increasing the Speaking Interaction
- Music and Song in Teaching Italian
- Error analysis and successful Correction in Language Teaching

Course content may be usefully adapted to incorporate the needs of the candidate.

Course fee : Euro 490,--

Starting date : the course can be arranged anytime from 05.03.2012 to 26.10.2012

